

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05990 081116Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 053976

O 081044Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 997

S E C R E T BEIRUT 5990

EXDIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM SEELYE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,

SUBJECT: FUTURE CALLS ON CHRISTIAN LEADERS

1. I HAVE BEEN HERE ALMOST TWO WEEKS AND DURING THIS TIME I HAVE CALLED ON ALL KEY MOSLEM PERSONALITIES ON THIS SIDE, AS WELL AS ON ONLY CHRISTIAN LEADER RESIDING HERE, RAYMOND EDDE. I MUST NOW FIGURE WAY OF GETTING TO "RIGHTIST" SIDE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AS YOU KNOW, UPON ARRIVAL I SENT MESSAGES TO SARKIS AND FRANGIE INDICATING MY DESIRE TO CALL ON THEM AS SOON AS SECURITY SITUATION PERMITTED. I HAVE SINCE ANNOUNCED TO PRESS MY INTENTION OF DOING SO, AND USIA HAS ISSUED A RELEASE REAFFIRMING THIS. NEVERTHELESS, WE KEEP GETTING ECHOES FROM THE MARONITES ACROSS THE WAY THAT I AM SHOWING FAVORITISM.

2. HOPEFULLY, TERMINATION OF TELL ZAATAR BATTLE AND CLEAINING UP OF PALESTINIAN POCKETS IN NORTHERN PART OF CHRISTIAN ZONE WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR ME--AT LEAST TO CIRCULATE SFAELY IN CHRISTIAN AREA. MY THOUGHT IS TO SPEND SEVERAL NIGHTS THERE VISITING THE WHOE PANALPLY OF LEADERS. I WOULD HAVE WITH ME MY TWO SECURITY OFFICERS AND, OF COURSE, I WOULD BE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE PHALANGE. I WOULD PROBABLY WAIT FOR NICK MURPHY'S ARRIVAL IN BEIRUT (ETA JULY 15) SO THAT HE COULD ACCOMPANY ME AND BE IN A POSITION TO FOLLOW UP LATER.

3. DILEMMA IS HOW TO GET THERE. THERE ARE SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 05990 081116Z

ONE IS TO DRIVE TO DAMASCUS AND TRY TO GET SYRIAN HELICOPTER TO

TRNASPORT ME OVER SYRIAN-HELD TERRITORY. A SECOND POSSIBILITY IS TO DRIVE BACK WAY OVER MOUNTAIN AND, WITH PERMISSION OF SYRIAN AUTHORITIES, PASS THROUGH CHTAURA AND CROSS OVER BY CAR THROUGH FARAIYA. THIRD COURSE IS TO USE HELICOPTER FROM HERE, PROVIDING ONE COULD BE LOCATED IN SATISFACTORY WORKING CONDITION AND IT WAS NOT TOO VULNERABLE TO POT SHOTS. LASTLY, I COULD TAKE AMBASSADOR MELOY'S CAR ROUTE DIRECTLY ACROSS LINE, BUT THIS TIME HEAVILY ESCORTED UP TO LINE BY ARMED PLO.

4. COMMUNICATION POSES ANOTHER POSSIBLE PROBLEM. TELEPHONE LINES ARE OUT AND IN ANY CASE I SHOULD AVOID MAKING ANY APPOINTMENTS OVER THE TELEPHONE. SO I MUST FIND A WAY OF ALERTING CHRISTIAN CONTACTS OF DATE AND TIME OF MY ARRIVAL. I MIGHT STAY WITH GHASSAN TUEINI, WHO HAS INVITED ME TO DO SO, IN BEIT MERY.

5. AS SITUATION DEVELOPS, I WILL BE WEIGHING PROS AND CONS OF COREGOING COURSES OF ACTION AND WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED. WELCOME ANY IDEAS WHICH YOU MAY HAVE.  
SEELYE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CHRISTIANS, AMBASSADORS, MEETINGS, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BEIRUT05990  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760263-0356  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760781/aaaactai.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FUTURE CALLS ON CHRISTIAN LEADERS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006